

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 17 and 20 are amended and claims 1-13, 15 and 16 are canceled.

Accordingly, claims 14 and 17-22 remain pending for consideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 14 and 17-19. Claim 17 has been rewritten into independent claim format and claims 18-22 depend from allowable claim 17. Accordingly, allowance of claims 14 and 17-22 is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: February 16, 2006

By: 
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620